



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/488,578	01/21/2000	Robert J. Snyder	1752.0010002	4622
24498	7590	04/03/2006	EXAMINER	
THOMSON LICENSING INC. PATENT OPERATIONS PO BOX 5312 PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312			HUYNH, BA	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2179		

DATE MAILED: 04/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/488,578	SNYDER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ba Huynh	2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 January 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on 9/22/05 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Oath/Declaration

2. This application contains a declaration filed by Mr. Alex Holtz on 12/10/2002.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. Claims 1-15, 18-24, 26-28, 30-32, 34, 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US patent #6,038, 573 (Parks).
 - As for claims 1, 10: Parks teaches a computer implemented method and corresponding system for producing a show comprising the steps/means for enabling creation of an instruction sequence for the show, wherein the instruction sequence defines one or more set of production commands (4:20-26), the one or more sets comprising one or more segment files, each segment file comprising a set of production commands that, when executed, operates to produce a segment of the show (6:42-51, 6:59-7:7, 15:64-16:28, figs, 4 and 5), each segment file comprising script portions that include commands activated in relation to a script (7:8-33, 8:33-38) and non-script portions that include commands activated independent of a script (8:41-51, 10:23-27, 15:64-16:1, fig 4), each segment having a duration (13: 25-49), which is defined by

execution of the instruction sequence under the control of a human operator, and executing the one or more set of production command to produce the show (15:64-16:1).

- As for claims 2, 11: A segment file can be added to a show file prior to executing a first production command within the group of production commands corresponding to the segment file (8:33-51, 8:60-61, 12:29-37, 12:52-54, 17:38-55).
- As for claims 3, 9, 12: A subsequent segment file can be irreversibly appended to the show file prior to executing a first production command within the group of commands corresponding to a preceding segment file (8:33-51, 8:60-61, 17:38-55).
- As for claim 4: The group of production commands corresponding to a subsequent segment file includes instructions for transitioning from the preceding show segment to the subsequent show segment (inherently included in Parks' teaching of multi-segment data structure).
- As for claims 5, 13: The show file is stored in a memory (7:1-4).
- As for claims 6, 14: Show segments are record for subsequent playback (inherently included), the record segment includes segment delimiter (10:19-22, 17:20-24).
- As for claims 7, 15: The segment delimiter includes starting point (17:20-24).
- As for claim 8: Parks teaches a computer implemented method and corresponding system for producing a show comprising the steps/means for enabling creation of an instruction sequence for the show, wherein the instruction sequence defines one or more set of production commands (4:20-26), the one or more sets comprising one or more segment files, each segment file comprising a set of production commands that, when executed, operates to produce a segment of the show (6:42-51, 6:59-7:7, 15:64-16:28, figs, 4 and 5), each segment file comprising script portions that include commands activated in relation to a script (7:8-33, 8:33-38) and non-script

portions that include commands activated independent of a script (8:41-51, 10:23-27), each segment having a duration (13: 25-49), which is defined by execution of the instruction sequence under the control of a human operator, and executing the one or more set of production command to produce the show (15:64-16:1). A segment file can be added to a show file prior to executing a first production command within the group of production commands corresponding to the segment file (8:33-51, 8:60-61, 12:29-37, 12:52-54, 17:38-55).

- As for claim 18: Parks teaches a computer implemented method and corresponding system for producing a show comprising the steps/means for enabling creation of an instruction sequence for the show, wherein the instruction sequence defines one or more set of production commands (4:20-26), the one or more sets comprising one or more segment files, each segment file comprising a set of production commands that, when executed, operates to produce a segment of the show (6:42-51, 6:59-7:7, 15:64-16:28, figs, 4 and 5), each segment file comprising script portions that include commands activated in relation to a script (7:8-33, 8:33-38) and non-script portions that include commands activated independent of a script (8:41-51, 10:23-27), each segment having a duration (13: 25-49), which is defined by execution of the instruction sequence under the control of a human operator, and executing the one or more set of production command to produce the show (15:64-16:1). The show segment can be distributed over a network (6:8-23, 17:60-63).
- As for claims 19, 22, 27, 30: Show segments are distributed to destinations upon request (6:8-23, 17:60-63).

- As for claims 20, 23, 24, 28, 34: The commands for selecting a show segment or related media for distribution over internet is inherently included in Parks' teaching of distributing the show to selected destination (1:25-33, 1: 60-63, 6:8-23, 17:60-63).
- As per claims 21, 31: Show segments are identified by delimiters enabling the selection of a segment for distribution (16:10-15).
- As for claim 26: Parks teaches a computer implemented method and corresponding system for producing a show comprising the steps/means for enabling creation of an instruction sequence for the show, wherein the instruction sequence defines one or more set of production commands (4:20-26), the one or more sets comprising one or more segment files, each segment file comprising a set of production commands that, when executed, operates to produce a segment of the show (6:42-51, 6:59-7:7, 15:64-16:28, figs, 4 and 5), each segment file comprising script portions that include commands activated in relation to a script (7:8-33, 8:33-38) and non-script portions that include commands activated independent of a script (8:41-51, 10:23-27), each segment having a duration (13: 25-49), which is defined by execution of the instruction sequence under the control of a human operator, and executing the one or more set of production command to produce the show (15:64-16:1). Show segments include segment delimiter (10:19-22, 17:20-24).
- As for claim 32: Parks teaches a computer implemented method and corresponding system for producing a show comprising the steps/means for enabling creation of an instruction sequence for the show, wherein the instruction sequence defines one or more set of production commands (4:20-26), the one or more sets comprising one or more segment files, each segment file comprising a set of production commands that, when executed, operates to produce a

segment of the show (6:42-51, 6:59-7:7, 15:64-16:28, figs, 4 and 5), each segment file comprising script portions that include commands activated in relation to a script (7:8-33, 8:33-38) and non-script portions that include commands activated independent of a script (8:41-51, 10:23-27), each segment having a duration (13: 25-49), which is defined by execution of the instruction sequence under the control of a human operator, and executing the one or more set of production command to produce the show (15:64-16:1). The show segment can be distributed over a network (6:8-23, 17:60-63). The commands for selecting a show segment or related media for distribution over internet is inherently included in Parks' teaching of distributing the show to selected destination (1:25-33, 6:8-23, 17:60-63).

- As for claim 35: Parks discloses a news story markup language that defines timing information and machine control commands that is used to automate news broadcasting (abstract), thus it is inherently included that the distribution of the show segment is substantially at the same time as producing the show segment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. Claims 16, 17, 25, 29, 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent #6,038,573 (Parks).

- As for claims 16, 17: Parks teaches a computer implemented method and corresponding system for producing a show comprising the steps/means for enabling creation of an instruction sequence for the show, wherein the instruction sequence defines one or more set of production commands (4:20-26), the one or more sets comprising one or more segment files, each segment file comprising a set of production commands that, when executed, operates to produce a

segment of the show (6:42-51, 6:59-7:7, 15:64-16:28, figs, 4 and 5), each segment file comprising script portions that include commands activated in relation to a script (7:8-33, 8:33-38) and non-script portions that include commands activated independent of a script (8:41-51, 10:23-27), each segment having a duration (13: 25-49), which is defined by execution of the instruction sequence under the control of a human operator, and executing the one or more set of production command to produce the show (15:64-16:1). Parks fails to clearly teach converting a verbal instruction to signals to enable the creation of the instruction sequence. However official notice is taken that converting a verbal instruction to signals to enable the creation of the instruction sequence is well known in the art of programming (see the incorporated US 6,211,869, 2:29-33, and US patent #6,185,538, 2:5-14, 4:25-34). It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the well known implementation of receiving verbal instruction and converting the verbal instruction to computer executable instruction to Parks. Motivation of the combining is for the advantage of voice input programming.

- As for claims 25, 29: Parks is silent regarding distributing a show segment over wireless communication. However Official notice is taken that implementation of distributing a show

segment over wireless communication would have been obvious to one of skill in the art.

Motivation of the combining is for the clear advantage of wireless communication.

- As for claim 33: Parks is silent regarding distributing an advertisement to the destination.

However it would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to implement the distribution of an advertisement to the destination to Parks. Motivation of the implementation is for business promotion.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/12/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

REMARKS:

In response to the argument that parks does not teach the segment file having a command executed independent of the script, the limitation is disclosed in 15:64-16:1, wherein the NSML file includes at least machine control elements (instructions) for automating control functions. See also the description of figure 4. Thus, other than the script dependent (245, 246), the file also includes other non-script commands executed independent of the script.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ba Huynh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4138. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ba Huynh
Primary Examiner
AU 2179
3/28/06

BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER